

Sub 27  
2. (Twice Amended) A tension member for providing lifting force to a car of an elevator system, the tension member being engageable with a rotatable traction sheave of the elevator system, the tension member comprising:

a plurality of individual load carrying ropes; and

a common layer of polyurethane coating in which the ropes are embedded, maintaining separation of the individual ropes and resisting longitudinal movement of the ropes relative to one another,

the tension member having a width  $w$ , a thickness  $t$  measured in the bending direction, and an engagement surface that receives force from the traction sheave as a result of traction between the engagement surface and the traction sheave, which force is transmitted to the ropes of the tension member by the polyurethane coating to thereby move the car, the engagement surface being defined on the polyurethane coating substantially by the width dimension of the tension member,

wherein the tension member has an aspect ratio, defined as the ratio of width  $w$  relative to thickness  $t$ , greater than one.

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4. (Twice Amended) A tension member for providing lifting force to a car of an elevator system, the tension member being engageable with a rotatable traction sheave of the elevator system, the tension member comprising:

strands of non-metallic material; and

a polyurethane coating encasing the strands,

the tension member having a width  $w$ , a thickness  $t$  measured in the bending direction, and an engagement surface that receives force from the traction sheave as a result of traction between the engagement surface and the traction sheave, which force is transmitted to the non-metallic strands of the tension member by the polyurethane coating to thereby move the car, the engagement surface being defined on the polyurethane coating substantially by the width dimension of the tension member,

wherein the tension member has an aspect ratio, defined as the ratio of width  $w$  relative to thickness  $t$ , greater than one.

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11. (Twice Amended) A tension member for providing lifting force to a car of an elevator system, the tension member being engageable with a contoured engagement surface of a rotatable traction sheave of the elevator system, the tension member comprising:

- a load-carrying member; and
- a polyurethane coating encasing the load-carrying member,

the tension member having a width  $w$ , a thickness  $t$  measured in the bending direction, and an engagement surface that receives force from the traction sheave as a result of traction between the engagement surface and the traction sheave, which force is transmitted to the load-carrying member of the tension member by the polyurethane coating to thereby move the car, the engagement surface being defined on the polyurethane coating substantially by the width dimension of the tension member,

- wherein the tension member has an aspect ratio, defined as the ratio of width  $w$  relative to thickness  $t$ , greater than one, and
- wherein the engagement surface of the tension member is contoured to complement the contoured engagement surface of the sheave.

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13. (Twice Amended) A tension member for providing lifting force to a car of an elevator system, the tension member being engageable with a rotatable traction sheave of the elevator system, the tension member comprising:

- a load-carrying member; and
- a polyurethane coating encasing the load-carrying member,

the tension member having a width  $w$ , a thickness  $t$  measured in the bending direction, and an engagement surface that receives force from the traction sheave as a result of traction between the engagement surface and the traction sheave, which force is transmitted to the load-carrying member of the tension member by the polyurethane coating to thereby move the car, the engagement surface being defined on the polyurethane coating substantially by the width dimension of the tension member,

- wherein the tension member has an aspect ratio, defined as the ratio of width  $w$  relative to thickness  $t$ , greater than one.

16. (Twice Amended) A tension member for providing lifting force to a car of an elevator system, the tension member being engageable with a rotatable traction sheave of the elevator system, the tension member comprising:

a load-carrying member; and

a polyurethane coating encasing the load-carrying member, the tension member having a width  $w$ , a thickness  $t$  measured in the bending direction, and an engagement surface that receives force from the traction sheave as a result of traction between the engagement surface and the traction sheave, which force is transmitted to the load-carrying member of the tension member by the polyurethane coating to thereby move the car, the engagement surface being defined on the polyurethane coating substantially by the width dimension of the tension member,

wherein the tension member has an aspect ratio, defined as the ratio of width  $w$  relative to thickness  $t$ , greater than one, and

wherein the engagement surface is shaped to guide the tension member during engagement with the sheave.

71. (Amended) An elevator system including:

a car;

a traction sheave; and

a tension member engaged with the car and engaged and driven by the traction sheave, the tension member comprising

a plurality of individual load carrying ropes, and

a layer of polyurethane coating in which the ropes are embedded, maintaining separation of the individual ropes and resisting longitudinal movement of the ropes relative to one another,

the tension member having a width  $w$ , a thickness  $t$ , and an engagement surface that receives force from the traction sheave as a result of traction between the engagement surface and the traction sheave, which force is transmitted to the ropes of the tension member by the polyurethane coating to thereby move the car, the engagement surface

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being defined on the polyurethane coating substantially by the width dimension of the tension member,

wherein the tension member has an aspect ratio, defined as the ratio of width  $w$  relative to thickness  $t$ , greater than one.

72. (Amended) An elevator system including:

a car;

a traction sheave; and

a tension member engaged with the car and engaged with and driven by the traction sheave, the tension member comprising

strands of non-metallic material, and

a polyurethane coating encasing the strands,

the tension member having a width  $w$ , a thickness  $t$ , and an engagement surface that receives force from the traction sheave as a result of traction between the engagement surface and the traction sheave, which force is transmitted to the non-metallic strands of the tension member by the polyurethane coating to thereby move the car, the engagement surface being defined on the polyurethane coating substantially by the width dimension of the tension member,

wherein the tension member has an aspect ratio, defined as the ratio of width  $w$  relative to thickness  $t$ , greater than one.

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73. (Amended) An elevator system including:

a car;

a traction sheave having a contoured engagement surface; and

a tension member engaged with the car and engaged with and driven by the traction sheave, the tension member comprising

a load-carrying member, and

a polyurethane coating encasing the load-carrying member,

the tension member having a width  $w$ , a thickness  $t$ , and an engagement surface that receives force from the traction sheave as a result

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of traction between the engagement surface and the traction sheave, which force is transmitted to the load-carrying member of the tension member by the polyurethane coating to thereby move the car, the engagement surface being defined on the polyurethane coating substantially by the width dimension of the tension member,

wherein the tension member has an aspect ratio, defined as the ratio of width  $w$  relative to thickness  $t$ , greater than one, and

wherein the engagement surface is contoured to complement the contoured engagement surface of the sheave.

Sub C<sub>6</sub> 74. (Amended) An elevator system including:

a car;

a traction sheave having an engagement surface; and

a tension member engaged with the car and engaged with and driven by the traction sheave, the tension member comprising

a load-carrying member, and

a polyurethane coating encasing the load-carrying member,

the tension member having a width  $w$ , a thickness  $t$ , and an

engagement surface that receives force from the traction sheave as a result of traction between the engagement surface and the traction sheave, which force is transmitted to the load-carrying member of the tension member by the polyurethane coating to thereby move the car, the engagement surface being defined on the polyurethane coating substantially by the width dimension of the tension member,

wherein the tension member has an aspect ratio, defined as the ratio of width  $w$  relative to thickness  $t$ , greater than one.

75. (Amended) An elevator system including:

a car;

a traction sheave having an engagement surface; and

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a tension member engaged with the car and engaged with and driven by the traction sheave, the tension member comprising

- a load-carrying member, and
- a polyurethane coating encasing the load-carrying member,

the tension member having a width  $w$ , a thickness  $t$ , and an engagement surface that receives force from the traction sheave as a result of traction between the engagement surface and the traction sheave, which force is transmitted to the load-carrying member of the tension member by the polyurethane coating to thereby move the car, the engagement surface being defined on the polyurethane coating substantially by the width dimension of the tension member,

wherein the tension member has an aspect ratio, defined as the ratio of width  $w$  relative to thickness  $t$ , greater than one, and

wherein the engagement surface is shaped to guide the tension member during engagement with the sheave.

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